REMARKS

Claims 5 and 12 have been amended. Minor corrections have been made to the specification. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indicated allowability of claims 5-6, 12 and 14-15. Accordingly, Applicants have rewritten allowable claims 5 and 12 into independent form, including the features of the base and any intervening claims. As such, claims 5 and 12, along with their respective dependent claims 14-15 and 6, are submitted to be in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, independent claim 10, along with dependent claims 9, 11 and 13 were rejected as being anticipated by COFFEE et al. (US 6,611,755). In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicants' independent claim 10 recites an anti-theft system. A control system is arranged on a self-propelling movable object. The control system includes a position detecting means for detecting a position, a transmission/reception means, and a processing means for performing predetermined processing operations. The anti-theft system is characterized in that a clocking means, a first power feeding means for performing feeding of

power to at least the position detecting means, and a second power feeding means for performing feeding of power to at least the clocking means are provided. The processing means receives signals from the clocking means, allows the first power feeding means to continuously feed power until a first predetermined time elapses from a time point at which a stop signal for an engine is input, and after an elapse of the first predetermined time, repeatedly outputs an instruction signal permitting feeding of power at predetermined time intervals to the first power feeding means.

Thus, Applicants' claimed anti-theft system includes a first power feeding means for performing feeding of power to at least the position detecting means, and a second power feeding means for performing feeding of power to at least the clocking means. The processing means allows the first power feeding means to continuously feed power until a first predetermined time elapses from a time point at which the stop signal for the engine is input. After that, the processing means repeatedly outputs an instruction signal to permit feeding of power at predetermined time intervals to the first power feeding means.

As shown, for example, in Figure 10(h) of Applicants' specification, the use of a second power feeding means that feeds power to at least the clocking means allows for the clocking means to provide a timer function such that an ON signal may be output at predetermined time intervals Δt (see page 22, lines 11-14).

Based on the ON signal, it is possible for the processing means to feed power to the first power feeding means (for example, switch 9), which powers the position detecting means (see page 22, lines 14-15).

As discussed in an embodiment of Applicants' invention, the clocking means can be arranged independently of the main controller 2 (i.e., the processing means) and power can be fed to the clocking means via, for example, a lithium battery that is different from the battery mounted on the vehicle (see page 22, lines 7-11). The battery of the vehicle can be connected to the main controller, the position detecting controller, and the transmission/reception control unit via switch 8 alone, and to intermittently feed power to the main controller and position detecting controller in accordance with timer signals from the clocking means. In such a case, the lithium battery may serve as the second power feeding means (see page 22, lines 15-22).

Hence, Applicants' claim 10 describes first and second power feeding means, wherein the first power feeding means feeds power to at least the position detecting means, and the second power feeding means feeds power to at least the clocking means. The processing means, which receives signals from the clocking means, repeatedly outputs an instruction signal to permit feeding of power to the position detecting means (via the first power feeding means) after a

first predetermined time has elapsed. Prior to that time, the processing means allows the first power feeding means to continuously feed power.

In contrast, as an initial matter, COFFEE is directed toward a vehicle tracking, communication and fleet management system. No where does COFFEE specifically reference an anti-theft device.

Notwithstanding the above, COFFEE's disclosure is concerned with the problem of allowing multiple vehicles to communicate automatically and efficiently with a fleet operator. COFFEE discloses the use of a tracker 135 (see Figures 23 and 24) that is mounted on a vehicle (195, Figure 23). The tracker 135 includes a main CPU 203 coupled with a GPS navigation section 204 (see Figure 24). The tracker includes several power supplies (represented generally in Figure 24 as block 205), one of which is a 5V DC supply for the main CPU 203 processing functions (col. 46, lines 4-10). In that regard, the primary functions of COFFEE's tracker are navigation and radio communication, as specifically recited in the COFFEE patent (col. 45, lines 24-26), not any particular anti-theft capability.

Moreover, with reference to COFFEE's Figure 25 illustrating the internal power distribution of the tracker, 5V CPU supply 217 powers both the CPU 203 and GPS 204. Additionally, CPU 203 requires that the 12V radio supply 218 be

in an ON condition for CPU 203 to operate. In COFFEE, the 5V CPU supply 217 feeds power to the CPU 203 and GPS 204 when turned on via microcontroller 216 for a "Full On" mode (col. 49, lines 40-42 and 54-55).

In the Office Action, the Examiner recites that the 12V radio supply 218 is the first power feeding means that feeds power to a position detecting means, identified as GPS LNA 219. However, Applicants respectfully submit GPS LNA 219 is not a position detecting means, but rather is merely an amplifier for an antenna used with the GPS system (see col. 49, lines 24-26). The position detecting device in COFFEE is the GPS 204. Moreover, the Office Action maintains that COFFEE discloses a second power feeding means (217) that feeds power to at least the clocking means (203).

Additionally, the Office Action maintains that microcontroller 216 meets the limitations of Applicants' claimed processing means. However, Applicants' processing means is recited to perform predetermined processing operations including outputs of run commands to the position detecting means and the transmission/reception means. In contrast, microcontroller 216 in COFFEE merely serves to control power to the tracker (col. 49, line 40), which does not meet the limitations of Applicants' claimed processing means in claim 10. Indeed, COFFEE's CPU 203 is more akin to Applicants' claimed processing

means. However, as discussed above, CPU 203 and its CPU clock are powered via supply 217, which is turned on via microcontroller 216.

In essence, COFFEE fails to disclose the technical inventive concept wherein the first power feeding means, via a vehicle battery for example, feeds the power to the position detecting means from the point when the engine is stopped until a predetermined time period elapses. And then, after that predetermined time period, power is fed at predetermined time intervals. In other words, regardless of the stopping of the engine, the battery continuously feeds the power.

Finally, Applicants respectfully point out that independent claim 10 utilizes means plus function limitations pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶ 6. The Office Action fails to analyze this claim consistent with a proper statutory construction. In that regard, a proper analysis of claim 10 further supports the patentability thereof.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit independent claim 10, as well as dependent claims 9, 11 and 13, are patentable over COFFEE.

Regarding the erroneously cited U.S. reference 2001/0029051 A1, Applicants note that this appears to be an error on the International Search Report that listed the reference.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit claims 5-6 and 9-15 are now in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #080306.56378US).

Respectfully submitted,

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